

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 295300

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OSLO

INFO SECDEF

UNCLAS STATE 295300

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PDIP, NO

SUBJECT: DEFENSE DEPARTMENT AWARD FOR NORWEGIAN CITIZEN

1. FORMER US AMBASSADOR TO NORWAY THOMAS R. BYRNE RECOMMENDED APPROPRIATE RECOGNITION FOR THE EFFORTS OF MR. REIDAR SOOT, A NORWEGIAN ATTORNEY, IN ESTABLISHING A MONUMENT TO AMERICAN CASUALTIES OF WORLD WAR II.

2. MR. SOOT WAS CONCERNED THAT THERE WAS NO MEMORIAL ANYWHERE IN NORWAY TO THE AMERICANS WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THE FREEING OF NORWAY. HE SINGLE-HANDEDLY SOLICITED PRIVATE FUNDS, OBTAINED GOVERNMENTAL APPROVAL, ARRANGED THE PROCUREMENT AND PLACEMENT OF AN APPROPRIATE MONUMENT, AND COORDINATED THE IMPRESSIVE DEDICATION CEREMONY.

3. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS GRATEFUL FOR MR. SOOT'S EFFORTS AND, IN RECOGNITION OF HIS UNIQUE CONTRIBUTION TO THE FRIENDSHIP OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES, WISHES TO AWARD HIM THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE MEDAL FOR OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVICE.

4. REQUEST EMBASSY CONTACT MR. SOOT WHO WE ASSUME LIVES IN OSLO AREA AND ARRANGE FOR AN APPROPRIATE PRESENTATION
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CEREMONY. THE AWARD ELEMENTS

(CITATION AND MEDAL) ARE BEING POUCHED
SEPARATELY FOR ATTENTION OF PROTOCOL OFFICER.

5. JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE. KISSINGER

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